National Finance Center Customer Notification

Date: November 17, 2010

Subject: Revised NFC Update z/OS Operating System Upgrade

Database/Customer(s) Affected: All Mainframe Related Applications

Dear Customer:

NFC is in the process of upgrading its mainframe operating system from z/OS 1.9 to z/OS 1.11. In an effort to make this upgrade as smooth as possible, we are asking for your participation in the system testing on Saturday, December 4, 2010. Additional testing, if required, will take place on Saturday, December 18, 2010. Testing is scheduled to start at approximately 12:00 noon CST and end by 6:00 p.m. CST on both December 4, 2010, and December 18, 2010, if necessary. Any data entry performed on December 4, 2010, will be applied to the production database.

Since the z/OS 1.11 will interface with every mainframe application, it is important that all applications be tested thoroughly prior to implementation. Testing by each agency participant should consist of performing normal workday functions related to the applications and data residing on the mainframe.

If your agency will be able to participate, please provide the name, email address, and phone number of your representative(s) to Customer.Support@usda.gov by COB Wednesday, November 24, 2010. Once a list is compiled, further information will be sent to each of the representatives.

If you have any questions regarding this notification, please contact NFC's Client Management Branch at Customer.Support@usda.gov.

KJS/M5-11-015/026

Tip of the Week

The U.S. Department of the Treasury no longer issues paper savings bonds through federal payroll savings plans. Employees who wish to participate in purchasing savings bonds electronically may do so by enrolling in the electronic bond program via Treasury Direct (www.treasurydirect.gov).